

Message Text

SECRET POSS DUPE

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44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 OMB-01 AID-20 H-03 IGA-02

EB-11 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /102 W
----- 015194

R 201203Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3077

SECDEF WASHDC

CJCS WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

COMUSSAV

CINCPAC

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 10055

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, CB

SUBJ: MANPOWER FOR FANK

REFS: (A) PHNOM PENH 9634/111129Z SEP 73

(B) PHNOM PENH 9834/150940Z SEP 73

1. ALMOST NOTHING HAS HAPPENED ON MANPOWER SINCE OUR MEETING WITH THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SEPTEMBER 15 (REFTEL B).

2. IN TAM HAS QUERIED SIRIK MATAK WHETHER HE WOULD HEAD THE EFFORT AND GOTTEN A POLITE TURNDOWN, AS DID WE. IN TAM ALSO TRIED FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF MAJGEN SAT SUTSAKHAN, WHO DECLINED ON THE GROUND THAT HE HOPES FOR AN ASSIGNMENT OVERSEAS AS AMBASSADOR. DEFMIN U SAY HAS ONLY COME UP WITH ASSORTED COLONELS OF NO ACCOUNT.

3. TO BREAK THE IMPASSE I FLOATED YESTERDAY THE NAME OF SENATE PRESIDENT LTGEN SAUKAM KHOY, AN OLD SOLDIER

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AND ADMINISTRATOR OF IMPECCABLE PERSONAL REPUTATION, WHO STANDS WELL WITH BOTH CIVILIAN AND MILITARY. KHOY

IS RATHER INGENUOUS IN POLITICS, HAS A PENCHANT FOR
DETAIL, AND TENDS TO PUSH STRAIGHT AHEAD. HE WORKS
WELL WITH US. ALL THESE QUALITIES COULD BE OF BENEFIT
IN THE ASSIGNMENT.

4. IN TAM AND SIRIK BOTH THINK WELL OF THE PROPOSAL,
AND THE LATTER WILL TRY TO HAVE A HIGH POLITICAL
COUNCIL MEETING CALLED TO GET A DECISION. IDEA WOULD
BE TO HAVE KHOY DEPEND DIRECTLY UPON THE COUNCIL.

5. WE HAVE NOT YET SOUNDED OUT KHOY BUT BELIEVE HE WOULD
ACCEPT IF THE COUNCIL ASSIGNS HIM THIS MISSION.
ENDERS

SECRET

NNN

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